

Patrick E. O'Donnell and former Rep. Thomas J. Corcoran (R-Ill.), who joined the firm in 1991.<sup>134</sup>

Corcoran provided O'Connor & Hannan its introduction to Indian gaming. Since 1989, Corcoran had represented Buffalo Brothers, the private management company that operated the St. Croix tribe's gaming operations in Wisconsin. When Corcoran joined the firm in 1991, he brought Buffalo Brothers with him as a client.

During this same time, Kitto was performing state-level lobbying work in Minnesota for a variety of clients in the area of Indian gaming. Since 1985, Kitto, an enrolled member of the Mdewakanton Santee Sioux tribe of Nebraska, had functioned through his own firm, Management and Public Affairs Consultants (MPA), in St. Paul. One of Kitto's MPA clients was Little Six, Inc., the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux tribal corporation that owned and operated the tribe's Mystic Lake casino.

Through his lobbying efforts in Minnesota, Kitto became acquainted with a partner in O'Connor & Hannan's Minnesota office. When Little Six needed Washington lobbyists, Kitto brought them to O'Connor & Hannan. Little Six retained the firm in the fall of 1993 for a general Washington representation on gaming issues.

Over time, Kitto and O'Connor & Hannan developed a close working relationship. In order to serve the firm's Indian client development goals and Kitto's interest in being able to represent his tribal clients in Washington, Kitto associated with the firm as a consultant. The firm eventually added Kitto (who was not a lawyer) to its formal roster as a member of its

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<sup>134</sup>Corcoran joined the firm in a consulting capacity as a lobbyist. In 1994, he became a non-attorney, general partner, as permitted by D.C. Bar rules.